

Weather Forecast

Cloudy, with showers; sunshine, warmer late today. Tomorrow cloudy, warmer.

Temperatures today—Highest, 75, at 1:30 p.m.; lowest, 68, at 5 a.m. Yesterday—Highest, 83, at 4:46 p.m.; lowest, 63, at 5 a.m.

Late New York Markets, Page A-15.

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An Associated Press Newspaper

Yanks Capture Important Peak, Speedy Fall of Cherbourg Seen; Berlin Reports Big Soviet Drive

Two Remaining Fortified Heights Under Attack

(Map on Page A-3.)

SUPREME ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, June 23.—Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley, American assault troops have stormed one of the three fortified peaks dominating Cherbourg's military harbor, supreme headquarters announced today, and speedy fall of the city is expected.

Describing Cherbourg's defenses as "fairly formidable," a headquarters announcement said a "prolonged siege is unlikely" now.

Attacking with a storm of artillery fire, and a huge array of instruments of destruction, the Americans captured a height at Tourville, four miles from the sea south-east of Cherbourg. The Germans had been reduced to machineguns, small arms and light artillery in defending their pillboxes and prepared defenses.

Americans and Germans were so closely interlocked in the grim battle that Allied air forces were unable to give the close battlefront support which marked the opening of the all-out attack yesterday.

Smash at Last Bastions.

British and American planes concentrated on hammering the battle area, hitting rail and road communications in a semicircle 100 miles deep in France as the Americans clamped a vice on Cherbourg, and smashed at the other two remaining hilltop bastions.

These were at Nourville, 2½ miles southwest of the port and 3 miles from the coast, and at La Mare a Conards, 1½ miles directly to the south of the city.

Three German divisions, mixed with German naval units and a defense garrison, were believed caught in the American clasp.

The Germans apparently had withdrawn completely from the eastern tip of the peninsula in order to concentrate on defense of Cherbourg.

May Have Evacuated Caen. A Canadian Press correspondent reported that the Germans may have evacuated Caen, at the eastern end of the Allied line in Normandy and dispersed their forces outside the city because of the terrific bombing to which the long-contested town had been subjected.

There was no confirmation at supreme headquarters of a German radio report that new Allied airborne landings had been made at Gavray east of Granville on the peninsula's west coast 60 miles below Cherbourg.

The Germans were making a desperate bid to hold the strategic port as long as possible. Everywhere fierce resistance was encountered, and a particularly vicious battle was being fought for control of the big airfield at Maupertus, 3 miles east of the city.

Gains in Other Sectors. Inside the besieged port, the German garrison stood up stubbornly under yesterday's 1,000-plane assault on the forts and pillboxes comprising the city's defense. American ground troops had to fight for every inch of their advance.

Small gains were registered around the port itself, but progress was made on both the eastern and western sides of the peninsula.

The German high command acknowledged today that the Americans made slight gains yesterday in the attack against Cherbourg. The broadcast communique was recorded in London by the Associated Press.

Only slight German resistance was reported by American troops which cut off the eastern tip of the peninsula by capturing the road junction of St. Pierre Elglise and then driving 2½ miles westward and around the tip.

U. S. Submarines Sink 16 More Jap Ships

11 Medium-Sized Cargo Vessels Included in Toll

American submarines, dealing another heavy blow to the Japanese merchant fleet, have sunk 16 more vessels in the Pacific, including 11 medium-sized cargo vessels, 4 small cargo vessels and a medium-sized naval auxiliary, the Navy announced today.

Holding to its policy of secrecy in submarine operations, the Navy gave no hint of when or where the vessels were destroyed, but it is known that the underwater craft have operated close to Japanese shores and along supply lines deep within enemy-controlled waters. Secretary of the Navy Forrestal has also reported that submarines played a large part in reconnaissance activities prior to the location of a portion of the Jap fleet east of the Philippines.

The new report of sinkings shows the rate of destruction by American subs now is better than 50 to one. The number of Japanese craft announced as sunk by submarines alone this month.

Since the start of the war, submarines, armed with having sunk, probably 100 or damaged 774 enemy vessels of all types including some warships. That total breaks down to 623 ships sunk, 36 probables and 115 damaged.

Saipan Situation Most Critical of War, Japs Say

Navy Spokesman Sees Threat to Sea and Air Supremacy

By the Associated Press. Etzuzo Kurihara, chief of the naval press section of Japanese imperial headquarters, declared in a formal statement broadcast by Tokyo today that the battle situation in the Saipan area is the most critical one since the beginning of the war.

The statement, recorded by the Office of War Information, said a major effort would be necessary to turn back advanced naval elements "centered around more than 20 aircraft carriers and more than a dozen battleships with more than 100 transport ships."

"The enemy's plan of advance is the greatest since the beginning of the war as the strength of the main force and in the fierceness of the enemy's fighting morale," Kurihara's statement said.

He said Saipan in the Marianas Islands is 1,268 nautical miles from Tokyo and 1,500 nautical miles from the Philippines.

Threat to Supremacy. "Therefore, if the enemy succeeds in building a powerful air base here, the influence on our sea and air supremacy in the Western Pacific will be extremely great. If the enemy uses large-type bombers, the homeland of Japan and the Philippines will be exposed within the bombing sphere of enemy planes."

The statement broadcast on the Japanese home radio as well as abroad acknowledged the Saipan operation was "advance of the enemy into our inner line."

The naval press chief said: "By mobilizing the entire strength of the land, sea and air forces in this area, we must exert our efforts for the destruction of the enemy in the future. The battle on Saipan is one of the most difficult of the enemy and the suffering of the enemy is clearly seen in the foreign and war reports from this area."

"Our officers and men are fighting with indescribable brilliance. Each time we receive a report of their achievements, we feel our blood stirring with excitement."

Reinforced Americans Gain on Saipan

PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, June 23 (AP).—Twenty thousand Japanese on Saipan Island, apparently abandoned to their death by a routed Nipponese fleet, today faced a Yank invasion army which now outnumbered them.

Sending almost certain victory in the distant Marianas, the reinforced Yanks scaled the heights and probed the flatlands of that island gateway to Japan, China and the Philippines.

Last night Admiral Chester W. Nimitz reported that the invasion of Saipan was going well.

Supported by planes operating off captured Asilo Airfield and out-gunning the Japs on the ground, (See SAIPAN, Page A-14.)

Nationals and A's Play Exhibition Monday

By the Associated Press. ABERDEEN, Md., June 23.—Two American League baseball teams, the Philadelphia Athletics and the Washington Nationals, will play an exhibition game at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Monday. Capt. H. S. Covington, APG athletic officer, reported today.

Yank Wonders If Saipan Is Worth Risk

(The following story, by Sgt. John B. T. Campbell, Jr., Los Angeles, a Marine Corps combat correspondent, was distributed by the Associated Press.)

SAIPAN, Marianas Islands, June 16 (Delayed).—On the eve of the assault on this island, a medical officer called members of a marine artillery unit together and warned them:

"In the surf they must beware of sharks, barracuda, sea snakes, anemones, razor-sharp coral, polluted waters, poison fish and, of all things, giant clams capable of snapping on a man like a bear trap."

Ashore, the men must take precautions against leprosy, typhus, malaria, yaws, typhoid and paratyphoid fevers, dengue fever, dysentery, an assortment of skin and eye infections, sea grass or sabre grass, a wide variety of insects, snakes and giant lizards.

They were instructed to eat nothing growing on the island, nor to drink its waters, nor to approach its inhabitants.

At the conclusion of his lecture, the doctor asked if there were any questions. A private raised his hand.

"Yes," queried the doctor. "Sir," said the private, "why don't we let the Japs have the island?"

Japanese Admit Loss of Carrier And 50 Planes

Acknowledge Inability To Inflict 'Decisive Blow' Off Marianas

By the Associated Press.

NEW YORK, June 23.—Japanese Imperial headquarters acknowledged today the loss of an aircraft carrier, two oil tankers and 50 planes in an engagement with planes of an American naval task force west of the Marianas, and admitted the Japanese had been "unable to inflict a decisive blow upon the enemy."

The broadcast, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, said part of the Japanese combined fleet had participated in the action which began Sunday and continued Monday.

A communique issued earlier by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz had announced that American carrier-based planes on Monday had sunk a carrier of the new Yamato class and three fleet tankers in addition to damaging a battleship, three carriers and other war craft. The Japs fled after dark.

Admiral Nimitz placed Japanese plane losses at 353 Suiday and 15 to 20 Monday.

William L. Worden, Associated Press correspondent aboard the 5th Fleet flagship, disclosed in a dispatch today that Guam was the site of the Sunday air battle. The Japs planes attacked after long-range flights from carriers and obviously intended to refuel at Guam. The fleet planes, however, prevented the Japs from landing, and many of their pilots who escaped lacked fuel to return to their carriers.

The Tokyo communique asserted the Japs had sunk or damaged five Allied aircraft carriers and one or more battleships, and asserted that 100 Allied planes had been destroyed.

Italy-Based Bombers Smash at Ploesti Oil Installations

Force From Britain Hammers Again at Pas-de-Calais Area

By the Associated Press. SUPREME ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, June 23.—Italy-based bombers smashed the Romanian oil installations at Ploesti again today while Liberators and Fortresses from Britain stabbed through clouds for the eighth straight day of smashes at the Pas-de-Calais "rocket coast."

The Italy-based force—of probably more than 500 heavy bombers—also attacked Gurgu, Danube port where Romanian oil is transhipped to river boats. The assault coincided with a British Ministry of Economic Warfare estimate that Germany's yearly output of oil has been reduced about 65 per cent by aerial bombing of the last three months. A ministry spokesman said the German Army is getting less than half the gasoline it needs. The spokesman said German liquid fuel output has been cut from 15,000,000 to 10,000,000 tons yearly to about 5,000,000.

Enemy Fighters Encountered. The Italy-based bombers, escorted by Lightning and Mustangs, met a "considerable number" of fighters over Romania, an announcement said, and several were shot down. The rail yards at Nis, Yugoslavia, also were bombed.

Today's attacks came after a night in which RAF heavies had bombed Nazi reinforcement-crammed rail yards at Reims and Laon, bringing to a climax one of the greatest days of aerial operations since the launching of the Normandy invasion.

Seven bombers were missing from (See AERIAL, Page A-14.)

Death Vies With Hymns in Normandy Field

By THOMAS R. HENRY, Staff War Correspondent. WITH U. S. FORCES IN FRANCE, June 23.—In the garden of a big chateau—until recently an enemy headquarters in which Hitler pictures still were hanging in each room—I gathered a big bucketful of ripe strawberries with Capt. Albert Hoff of Syracuse and Lt. William Patterson of Lynchburg, Va., Ninth Division Medical officers.

"Now we glimpse the end of the war," Capt. Hoff said later, while we walked through half a mile of boggy meadow. There, doubled over cow pasture bars, was a dead American soldier, his bayonet set, and beside him was a dead German, facing in the opposite direction. They were almost in each other's arms. They had been killed bayoneting each other.

Strewen over the pasture were 50 dead, half American, half enemy. All had been killed in bitter hand-to-hand fighting and their bodies were not discovered until about five days later.

American girls' names were carved on some rifle stocks. A college class ring was on one finger. Its owner lay with his knee genuflected, elbow on the ground in the attitude of prayer. On the blackened face was the expression of prayer. But one hand clutched a hand grenade.

A Yank was strapped on one German's back. Another had a copy of Goethe's Faust beside him, also a college biology notebook page with the margins covered with doodling sketches of Hitler. In his pocket was found a poem he had written. It was translated by Sgt. Willard Haas of Lehigh, Pa., Muhlenberg College German student.

"Where have the years of youth gone?" read the poem. "Where have they passed away? In this cruel war they have passed away. Don't forget, too, that one day this war will be over. Where may my dearest one be, where alive? Perhaps with another, leaving me here all alone."

A soldier picked up the copy of Faust as a souvenir. Capt. Hoff made him put it back by the body.

Russians Attack On Central Front, Germans Assert

BULLETIN.

LONDON (AP).—The German radio commentator, Ernst von Hammer said tonight that the Russians were attacking along a front of more than 100 miles in White Russia and had made a breach in German lines southeast of Vitebsk. The Reds were driving to break through along the Dvina River into the Baltic states, he declared.

RUSSIANS POUND FINNS on three fronts and extend gains. Page A-2.

By the Associated Press. LONDON, June 23.—The Germans announced today that the Red Army, striking on the third anniversary of Hitler's invasion of Russia, had launched its long-awaited summer offensive on the eastern front.

While Moscow had not as yet confirmed the opening of the drive, the German high command and official Berlin broadcast declared the Soviets moved forward yesterday on a broad front north of the Pripiet Marshes—on the most direct road from Moscow to Berlin and Warsaw—in an assault which may be co-ordinated with Allied advances in France and Italy.

The Germans said a large-scale Soviet offensive was set in motion from south of Mogilev to north of Vitebsk with heavy tank and plane support, while Moscow announced that triple Russian spearheads drove deeper against the Finns, north of Lake Onegay (Onega) and up the Aunus Isthmus, as well as along the northern reaches of the Karelian Isthmus.

Bitter Fighting Reported. The Berlin communique said the initial thrusts were parried, but "bitter fighting still is going on on either side of Vitebsk."

The assault was accompanied by local attacks northwest of Tarnopol toward Lwow, in Southern Poland below the Pripiet marshes, the report added. The first German report was made by Ernst von Hammer, chief military correspondent of International Information Bureau, a propaganda agency. His account was followed by similar accounts by DNB, official news agency; Transocean, another news agency; and by the high command.

While making the usual claim that the Russian gains were sealed off promptly, von Hammer said the Red Army was using artillery and tanks on a grand scale.

London military men adopted a wait-and-see attitude. Three days after the Allied landings in Normandy, the Germans announced the opening of a new Soviet drive which did not materialize.

Could Aim Straight at Berlin. However, in the past, German reports of Russian drives almost always have preceded those from Moscow, which is inclined to wait for substantial results before issuing communiques.

An offensive developing along the Mogilev-Vitebsk line could be aimed straight west at Berlin, southwest at Warsaw about 420 miles away or northwest to lope off the Baltic states by cutting 250 miles to Riga.

It is certain that the Russians are employing only a small percentage of their rested and re-equipped forces against Finland and that the Red Army is in a position to strike anywhere it chooses along the front from the Black Sea to the Baltic.

Tansocean said that a "big attack with very strong forces" was made by the Russians along a front of 95 miles from just south of Mogilev to just north of Vitebsk, and that fierce fighting continues there.

It also said reconnaissance indicated the lull likely would be broken soon on the north end of the eastern front, but it did not specify where.

In his broadcast, the International Information Bureau said:

"While the Russians did not go beyond local attacks on the southern sector, they started a big attack south of Mogilev up to the region of Vitebsk, with heavy artillery and tanks on a wide front."



Bolivia Is Recognized By U. S. and 18 Other American Republics

State Department Reports Villarroel Has Purged Pro-Axis Elements

By JOSEPH H. BAIRD. THE UNITED STATES AND 18 other American republics are renewing diplomatic relations with the Bolivian government headed by Maj. Gualberto Villarroel, it was announced today at the State Department. Relations were severed last January.

This country and 17 of the other American republics are presenting notes to the La Paz government today. Uruguay, for reasons not announced, will delay its formal statement of recognition for a day or two. The remaining American republics, Argentina, never has broken relations with Bolivia.

Besides the United States, the 18 nations granting recognition were Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Loyal to United Nations. Recognition followed a decision that the Villarroel regime had been purged of all pro-Axis elements and could be regarded as loyal to the cause of the United Nations.

The United States is expected to send an Ambassador to La Paz soon, but State Department officials were unable to say early today whether Pierre Boal, the former envoy there, would return.

The State Department's action was announced in the following formal statement:

"Between January 24 and January 28, 1944, 19 American republics, after full exchange of information and consultation with one another, declared their intention to withhold recognition from the Bolivian junta which came into power on December 20, 1943."

"They concluded that recognition of the new Bolivian regime would be in the interest of the security of the hemisphere and the success of the Allied cause. This was the criterion, and the only criterion, which they considered in passing upon the status of the Bolivian regime."

"Since last January the provisional government of Bolivia has carried out a number of decisive and affirmative acts in support of hemisphere security and the cause of the United Nations. Accordingly, the American governments have reviewed the situation again by exchanging information and consulting with one another. The consensus of this consultation is that there is no longer reason for withholding recognition."

The exchange of information and consultation which led to the decision by the sovereign states concerned that the Bolivian government should be recognized took place pursuant to resolutions 22 and 23 of the United Nations General Assembly.

(See BOLIVIA, Page A-14.)

Dewey Raps Administration As 'Sprawling Bureaucracy'

Vandenberg Presents Foreign Policy Plank, With 'We Preserve America' Interpretation

BULLETIN. Addressing the committee, Senator Vandenberg said:

"Regardless of the extent to which domestic issues may overshadow foreign issues in the approaching campaign, nothing is more important than that our Republican foreign policy plank in the Republican platform should be a forthright pledge of our Republican purpose:

(1) To fight this war to total victory over all our enemies; (2) to join in adequate international co-operations to prevent future wars and renewed military aggression; and (3) to conserve our essential American rights and interests and our constitutional process in these connections. Otherwise, foreign issues will dominate all else in the great 1944 referendum."

By GOULD LINCOLN, Staff Correspondent. CHICAGO, June 23.—"We preserve America and we co-operate with a free world," is the interpretation placed by Senator Vandenberg of Michigan on the draft of foreign affairs plank for the Republican platform which he submitted to the Resolutions Committee today.

The resolution, which is similar to the Mackinac declaration pledging United States collaboration with other nations to maintain peace, will be considered by the Resolutions Committee and put in final shape for submission to the national convention next week.

(Continued on Page A-4, Column 1.)

Boom Is Developing To Place Byrd on Republican Ticket

Knutson Favors Idea Of Nominating Virginian For Vice President

By the Associated Press. A boom for Senator Byrd, Democrat, of Virginia, as the vice presidential nominee on the Republican ticket developed today among GOP members of Congress.

House Minority Leader Martin, who will be the permanent chairman of the Chicago Republican Convention convening Monday, told newspapermen "there appears to be a great deal of sentiment for Senator Byrd."

He added that "I'll have to get to Chicago before I know just how strong this sentiment is."

Representative Knutson, Republican, of Minnesota, member of the House Ways and Means Committee, told reporters he would arrive in Chicago Saturday, and would propose the idea of offering the Virginian the second place on the Republican ticket.

Representative Eaton of New Jersey, ranking Republican on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, was in the group discussing the convention and commented: "Senator Byrd is a great national asset. His party label doesn't mean a thing. He's an American."

Representative Knutson said that with Senator Byrd on the ticket "we can carry Virginia, the Carolinas and several other Southern States."

While observing that there is substantial sentiment for Senator Byrd, Representative Martin did not express any personal preference, reminding those with whom he talked (See BYRD, Page A-2.)

District's Individual Bond Purchases Slip To \$700,000 for Day

Campaign Is Nearing Halfway With Sales Only 23.3% of Goal

The District drive for \$107,000,000 in War Bond purchases slipped today when only \$700,000 was reported for sales yesterday, bringing the individual total to \$14,200,000 or 23.3 per cent of that \$60,000,000 goal. Only two reports remain before the city moves into the second half of its Fifth War Loan campaign.

Included in this latest figure was \$400,000 in Series "E" bond purchases, boosting that total to \$8,600,000, just past the 25 per cent mark of the \$34,000,000 goal.

A reporter pointed out the sales were \$1,217,000 through Wednesday, slightly better than 20 per cent of the \$6,000,000 individual goal included in the overall quota of \$16,000,000.

Dancer Is Revue Star. Vera Zorina, ballet dancer, will be the guest star of tonight's opening of the Air Transport Command's "Contact Caravan" revue at the Army Air Forces "Shot From the Sky" exhibit at the Monument Grounds. Principal speakers will include Maj. Allen V. Martin, Army Air Forces, and Joseph D. Nunan, internal revenue commissioner.

The revue, the official overseas entertainment unit of the Caribbean Wing of the Air Transport Command, originally was produced as a radio program. It is scheduled to appear at the air show for one week.

Capt. Bob Crawford, ferry pilot who composed the official Army Air Forces song, will appear on tonight's program to introduce his latest song.

A joint bond rally and auction (See WAR LOAN, Page A-5.)

Congress Starts Recess Tonight Until August 1

Action on Fund Bills Sweeps Docket Almost Clean

BULLETIN.

The Senate sent the \$49,107,785,795 War Department appropriation bill to the White House today and then formally adopted a resolution for a congressional recess until August 1. Calendars in both houses were being cleared rapidly to permit wind-up this afternoon.

By the Associated Press. Congress pulled its traveling bags off the shelf today and prepared to quit until August 1. By tonight, members expect to resolve all the questions remaining in the passage of budget matters for the next fiscal year. That is important now, with the old fiscal year running out June 30. After that date, not a cent can be spent by a Government agency unless it is authorized.

Moreover, Republicans want to be in Chicago when the Republican National Convention starts Monday. The Democrats convene in the same city July 19.

The recess until August 1 was fixed yesterday after a conference between House Speaker Rayburn and Senate Majority Leader Barkley. Some voices were raised in favor of a rest until after Labor Day but they were voted down.

Another Recess Probable. Senator Barkley said there is some thought among members to take a longer recess, but most of them want to come back and "see what the situation is" before making the decision.

Meanwhile, President Roosevelt said he will consult administration advisers before acting on recently passed legislation extending the life of the Price and Wage Stabilization Act. He said the bill has not yet reached the White House.

The President signed a \$27,569,798,301 appropriation bill for the Navy, boosting to more than \$57,000,000 the total funds given the nation's largest navy in the last two years.

At the moment, Congress has to settle only such issues as movements to exempt insurance companies from Federal regulation, and to revive Federal crop insurance.

If "nothing is pressing" when the lawmakers return some five weeks hence, Senator Barkley said, "we might recess again" until early in September.

Meanwhile, either the majority or minority leader of either house can demand a recall of the Congress in the event of an "emergency."

The legislators were the docket almost clean yesterday by completing (See CONGRESS, Page A-14.)

Larry Kelly Reported Dead on Pacific Ship

Larry Kelly, indicted last March by a District grand jury on charges of misappropriating funds of Local No. 74 of the Building Laborers and Hodcarriers Union (AFL), died aboard a ship in the Pacific, according to a cablegram received today by the War Shipping Administration.

The WSA said it was checking for more details on the report of his death.

The FBI revealed only last week that Kelly, sought for a number of months, had been located working aboard a ship.

President Parries Fourth-Term Queries

Says Question on Plans Is of 'Boudoir' Variety

President Roosevelt again parried fourth-term questions at his news conference today, telling one reporter his question as to the President's intentions was of the boudoir variety and brushing aside another query as to whether he would issue a statement after the Republican convention expressing willingness to take the Democratic nomination.

Gov. Ellis Arnall of Georgia, after a 30-minute conference with the President yesterday, told newsmen he would not be surprised if Mr. Roosevelt expressed willingness to be "bound by the mandate" of the Democratic convention after the Republican convention ends.

Asked whether he planned a statement to that effect, Mr. Roosevelt laughed and said that the form of the questioning is taking today but that it wouldn't work. He added that the question would have to be written off as a total failure.

Another reporter wanted to know then whether he would make his own decision as to his course or whether he would reach a conclusion after conferring with political leaders.

The President responded by saying the conference was a press conference and not a boudoir conference and that this question was a boudoir question. The reporter responded that he had propped it simply because Mr. Roosevelt had said at an earlier conference that he welcomed political questions.

Your Investment in War Loan Bonds Today Is Your Guard Against Inflation Tomorrow